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E. R. THOMPSON.

Oct. 4-1901

REPORTS OF THE AUDITORS

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF GILMANTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1856.

M'FARLAND & JENKS, PRINTERS, CONCORD, N. H.

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS.

We have examined the accounts, orders and vouchers presented to us by the Selectmen and Town Treasurer, and find the following to be the result :

We find the Treasurer has paid the following sums by order of the Selectmen :

PAID FOR OLD ROADS AND BRIDGES.

A. C. Lougee, for repairing bridge,	\$6,50
Nathaniel Page, for timber for bridge,	6,40
Richard W. Marsh, for labor,	1,00
Henry E. Marsh, for do.,	19,50
Samuel N. Jewett, for plank and labor,	9,04
Henry E. Marsh, for labor,	27,50
Parker M. Lougee, for do.,	3,33
Eleazer Young, for plank and labor,	7,61
Jeduthan Farrar, for bridge plank,	3,17
John French, for do. do.,	3,00
Joseph S. Kimball, do. do.,	2,21
Charles A. Hackett, for labor,	7,16
Richard J. Varney, for breaking road,	12,00
Daniel Elkins, for bridge plank,	10,87
Jesse S. Towle, for plank and labor,	18,31
Horace Chapman, for labor,	6,00
Ebenezer French, for do.,	10,46
John M. Lougee, for bridge plank,	2,61
Benjamin Morrill, for damage to plow,	3,00
Dudley Lougee, for labor on bridge,	3,60

\$163,27

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PAID FOR NEW ROADS.

Jeremiah Lamprey, for land and damage,	\$60,00
O. A. J. Vaughan, for fees, &c., on Durrell road,	50,00
Peter Dudley, for land for new road,	12,00
Joseph B. Durrell, for board, &c., at the hearing,	42,94
O. A. J. Vaughan, for witness fees, &c.,	23,82
Henry E. Marsh, for making roads,	129,00
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	\$327,76

OUTSTANDING CLAIMS.

Paid John French, order for damage to wagon caused by bridge being out of repair,	\$2,00
Gilmanton Academy, interest on order,	8,50
L. T. Weeks, order for medical aid, 1854,	3,00
A. C. Clark, order for building bridge, 1842,	91,00
C. A. Hackett, order, 1854, for land damage,	104,50
A. Prescott, order for treasurer, 1850,	51,00
G. W. Morrison, for abatement of taxes of sundry persons, 1848,	10,39
A. Prescott, for boarding Selectmen, 1854,	47,87
J. S. Weymouth, for overseers on town farm, 1853,	211,40
H. D. Cotton, for J. Lougee family, 1854,	2,00
E. S. Price,	21,00
A. Prescott, for order, 1854,	1,00
E. O. Bean, for aid to paupers, 1853,	1,49
C. E. Plumer, for interest on old town order,	17,70
H. E. Marsh, for town order, 1854,	185,00
S. H. French, order, 1850,	112,09
Moses Gilman, for town order, 1850,	20,43
Otis French, order for medical aid, 1850,	125,83
E. S. Price, for tax on town farm, 1854,	15,19
S. M. Page, for interest on town order,	18,00
S. L. Greeley, order for store bill, 1854,	13,27
J. M. Currier, for break of J. R. Bean road, 1854,	5,75
John Everleth,	5,00
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	\$1143,59

FOR POOR ON TOWN FARM.

Paid Ezra Ham, for pigs,	\$6,00
Alfred Prescott, assessment on town buildings,	4,88
William G. Leavitt, for blacksmith,	13,28
A. S. Eastman, for store articles,	17,90
Theophilus Gilman, for cow,	25,00
Ephraim S. Gilman, for his and wife's services on town farm,	210,00

Ephraim S. Gilman, for hired labor,	35,00
do. do., for services,	30,00
Store bill for town farm,	11,49
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	\$353,55

POOR IN OTHER TOWNS CHARGABLE TO THIS.

Paid Ezra Dore, Alton, for Sarah Marsh,	\$60,50
Town of Gilford, for J. T. Lougee,	6,00
Isaac W. Lougee, for Mrs. Marsh,	2,25
Town of Pembroke, for Elsey Adams,	22,79
Town of Franklin, for Myron Evans,	72,99
Town of Laconia, for J. Smith family,	56,00
Town of Enfield, for B. L. Thurston,	24,79
Town of Andover, for Mrs. Kenison,	24,50
Town of Newmarket, for children of W. Shannon,	3,75
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	\$273,57

PHYSICIANS' BILLS.

Paid Nahum Wight \$255,00 : viz.,			
Sally Gilman,	\$ 1,18	Mr. Rollins,	\$ 3,50
Corner family,	13,25	Dudley Lougee,	5,25
B. B. Twombly,	4,57	A. Russell,	4,50
F. Hutchinson,	13,25	Jacob Willet,	2,25
Mary A. Moulton,	7,00	John Clifford,	59,75
John P. Osgood,	30,00	Jesse Page,	21,00
Dudley Lougee, Jr.,	2,50	Daniel Downs' family,	21,50
Lyford C. Hill,	51,50	James Twombly,	14,00
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			\$255,00
Paid Otis French,			50,00
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			305,00

FOR POOR OFF TOWN FARM, IN TOWN.

Paid Joseph Parsons, for Betsy Kimball,	\$ 1,00
Moses Bean, for J. M. Clifford,	2,00
Ira Pennach, for Mrs. Otis,	49,56
Sarah Piper, for widow Sally Rollins,	81,00
Jesse S. Towle, for widow Betsy Conner,	27,32
do. for Jacob Willard,	3,55
do. for David Hull,	4,79
John French, for John M. Clifford,	9,00
William R. Hutchinson, for John M. Clifford,	6,00
Ezra Ham, for James Young's wife,	5,33
Isaac Allen, for Eliza Ann Allen,	15,00
John C. Bean, for Mary A. Moulton,	1,84

Levi H. Mudgett, for store bills,	37,07	
Henry E. Marsh, for Lyford C. Hill,	5,00	
Jonathan Brown, for Mary Kimball,	55,00	
Insane Asylum, Concord, for Cordelia Lamper,	20,25	
do. do. for Mary Kimball,	25,06	
		<hr/> \$347,77

CURRENT EXPENSES.

Paid for enrolling militia, L. H. Mudgett,	\$5,00	
N. H. Dockham,	2,00	
S. Piper,	2,00	
J. S. Page,	2,00	
J. C. Shannon,	2,00	
J. W. Wells, storage and care of muskets,	3,00	
Isaac S. Morgan, for fitting town hall,	1,00	
David W. Weeks, for inventory books,	4,14	
do. for stationery,	1,73	
The several school districts,	1585,57	
		<hr/> \$1608,44
For abatement of taxes,		34,44
		<hr/> \$1642,88
To paid school district No. 19,	\$345,00	
To paid school district No. 20,	285,90	
		<hr/> \$2273,78
To paid State tax,	\$ 617,40	
To paid County tax,	1124,28	
To paid H. Quimby, school commissioner, 3 per cent. on school money,	46,30	
		<hr/> \$4061,76
Paid town officers :		
Benjamin B. Lamprey, for collecting, &c.,	\$20,21	
Jonathan W. Clough, for collecting, &c.,	37,46	
Jonathan Brown, for selectman's service,	4,50	
O. A. J. Vanghan, for town treasurer's service,	25,00	
Moses Price, for selectman's service,	4,00	
David W. Weeks, for service out town, &c.,	18,15	
David W. Weeks, for service in town,	83,00	
Burleigh F. Parsons, for service out town,	40,55	
Burleigh F. Parsons, for service in town,	75,00	
Henry E. Marsh, for service out town,	16,00	
Henry E. Marsh, for service in town,	83,50	
Cyrus Gilman, for town-clerk service,	42,86	
William N. Swain, for school committee service,	30,00	
Chas. A. Hackett, for school committee service,	38,48	
James W. Jones, for school committee service,	35,34	
David Hatch, for auditors' fees,	6,00	
		<hr/> \$560,05

DR. O. A. J. VAUGHAN, Town Treasurer, in account with the town of Gilmanton, CR.

To balance on settlement March 8, 1855,	\$1233,88	By paid for old roads and bridges,	\$163,27
" amount of tax assessed in 1855,	5836,01	" " " new roads,	327,76
" amount assessed on School District No. 19,	360,44	" " " outstanding claims,	1143,59
" " " " School District No. 1,	52,08	" " " poor on town farm,	353,55
" " " " School District No. 20,	379,93	" " " poor in other towns chargeable to this,	273,57
" cash received of State for railroad tax,	123,20	" " " physicians' bills,	305,00
" cash hired for use of town,	328,35	" " " poor off town farm,	347,77
		" " " current expenses,	4061,76
		" " " town officers,	560,05
		Balance in hands of Collectors, and cash on hand,	777,57
	<u>\$8313,89</u>		<u>\$8313,89</u>

O. A. J. VAUGHAN, Treasurer.

DAVID W. WEEKS, } *Selectmen*
HENRY E. MARSH, } *of*
BURLEIGH T. PARSONS, } *Gilmanton.*

March 1, 1856.

The undersigned have carefully examined the foregoing accounts, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched, and find in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of seven hundred and seventy-seven dollars and fifty-seven cents.

WILLIAM R. HUTCHINSON, } *Auditors.*
JOHN P. CLOUGH, }
DANIEL T. FRENCH, }

We find the town indebted for outstanding orders,	\$1789,96
After deducting balance in Treasury,	777,57
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Leaving indebted,	\$1012,38

FUNDS OF THE TOWN.

Parsonage fund,	\$1807,22
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We find the town indebted to the parsonage fund,	\$1164,46

The undersigned Selectmen of Gilmanton report that the town has paid out of the town treasury for the use of the town farm during the year commencing March 1, 1855, the following sums, viz :

Paid for one cow,	\$25,00
for three live pigs,	6,00
blacksmith's bill,	13,28
for provisions, clothing, &c., including store bill,	57,46
for hired labor,	35,00
for doctoring poor on farm,	4,00
interest on cost of farm,	180,00
for services of overseers,	260,00
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Making the whole paid out,	\$580,74
The amount of property as appraised Feb. 26, 1856,	
exceeds that of last year,	190,90
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Making the expense over the income,	\$389,84
The average number supported on farm,	22
Average cost of each, as appears by the above,	\$17,72

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY ON TOWN FARM,

As appraised by the Selectmen, February 26th, 1856.

9 tons English hay,	\$135,00
11 tons lowground hay,	99,00
1 horse,	65,00
4 oxen,	315,00
7 cows,	170,00
1 four-year-old steer,	40,00
3 two-year-old steers,	40,00
2 yearlings,	16,00
14 sheep,	45,00
3 shotes, 500 lbs.,	40,00
55 bushels corn,	60,50
17 bushels wheat,	42,50
4½ bushels barley,	4,50
6 bushels beans,	15,00
2 bushels peas,	3,00
6 bushels oats,	3,50

DAVID W. WEEKS, } *Selectmen*
HENRY E. MARSH, } *of*
BURLEIGH F. PARSONS, } *Gilmanton.*

Dudley J. Weeks,	aged 68 years.	Polly Morrill,	aged 63 years.
Thomas Elkins,	aged 70 years.	Mahala Moulton,	aged 42 years.
Charles Bean,	aged 61 years.	Mercy Elkins,	aged 43 years.
Louis Thompson,	aged 76 years.	Eliza Thompson,	aged 46 years.
Susan Perkins,	aged 85 years.	Alvah F. Willey,	aged 6 years.
Mehitable Elkins,	aged 65 years.	Eleanor Kenison,	aged 70 years.
Sally Perviere,	aged 56 years.	Number of deaths past year,	2.

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF

GILMANTON:

EMBRACING A BRIEF STATEMENT OF EACH SCHOOL SEPARATELY.

DISTRICT No. 1.

Summer School.—Miss HARRIET E. SANBORN, Teacher. This District is favored with a good house in a pleasant location, which greatly facilitates the advantages of the school. Miss Sanborn is a young lady of good education, though perhaps not so well capacitated to interest her pupils as more experienced teachers—this being her first school. The whooping cough diminished the number in attendance, yet respectable improvement was made by those attending the whole term. Whole number of scholars, 21; average attendance, 13; length of school, 7 weeks.

Winter School.—Mr. BENJAMIN G. PAGE, Teacher. This was a hard school, well trained. Mr. Page is an active and energetic teacher. Good order was preserved and good improvement made, especially in grammar and arithmetic. Whole number, 29; average, 26; length, 9 weeks.

DISTRICT No. 2.

Summer School.—Miss EDNAH J. GALE, Teacher. Miss Gale appeared fully awake to the responsibilities of her station, and interested herself for the welfare of her pupils. Scholars were interested; order good. Improvement highly satisfactory. Whole number, 27; average, 25; length, 7 weeks.

Winter School.—Mr. HENRY W. DUDLEY, Teacher. The progress in the branches taught was good, especially the classes in reading and in grammar. Order, good, also. Mr. Dudley is a faithful and competent teacher. The house ought to have a ventilator. Whole number, 39; average, 35; length, 7½ weeks.

DISTRICT No. 3.

Summer School.—Miss MARY A. HILL, Teacher. This was Miss Hill's first school, and she has been successful. Good order was maintained and good progress made. This District has recently repaired the school house, giving beauty to its external appearance and comfort within. Whole number, 15; average, 10; length, 10 weeks.

Winter School.—Mr. JOSIAH S. GOODWIN, Teacher. This was a quiet and successful school. Good progress was made. Considering the age of the scholars this school ranks high. Mr. G. is a well qualified and experienced teacher. Whole number, 24; average, 21; length, 7 weeks.

DISTRICT No. 4.

Summer School.—Miss ANNA L. PRESCOTT, Teacher. Length of school, 8 weeks; whole number of scholars, 17; average attendance, 11. There were a good number of intelligent scholars present at the first visit, but they were badly classed. Recommended uniting some of them. There being only three scholars present at the second visit, no judgment could be formed of the improvement made.

Winter School.—Mr. F. SCOTT FRENCH, Teacher. He kept a very good school, the scholars being generally instructed in their studies and the teacher faithful in the discharge of his duty. Whole number, 17; average, 15.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Summer School.—Miss MARY E. PEASLEE, Teacher. This was an interesting school. It was manifest that she was a coöperative in the work between scholar and teacher. Therefore, good order and good improvement crowned her efforts. The deportment of every scholar received the approbation of the teacher. Whole number, 28; average, 22; length, 8 weeks.

Winter School.—Mr. WILLIAM YEATON, Teacher. This was Mr. Yeaton's first school, yet he aimed at thoroughness rather than rapid progress superficially. The school appeared well at the first visit; also when visited by the Commissioner. The labors of a good teacher ought to be appreciated, and the parents should sustain him. We cannot speak of the improvement, not being notified of its close. The teacher did his duty in filling the blanks in the register, as every teacher should,—yet few do. Whole number, 42; average, 28; length, 8½ weeks.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Summer School.—Miss MARTHA B. COGSWELL, Teacher. This school appeared well at both visits. Teacher competent, scholars interested, progress satisfactory. The school house ought to be reckoned among the things that were. Whole number, 19; average, 16; length, 7 weeks.

Winter School.—Mr. CHARLES E. MOODY, Teacher. At the first visit found the school very deficient in regard to order; considerable improvement was manifest in that respect at the close; also, very fair improvement was made in most of the branches taught. Whole number, 18; average, 16; length, 7 weeks.

DISTRICT No. 7. (No *Summer School*.)

Winter School.—Mr. CHARLES E. MARSH, Teacher. Considerable improvement was manifest, yet there was evidently a want of close application to study on the part of scholars; consequently, their knowledge in the studies pursued was superficial. Whole number, 18; average, 16; length, 7 weeks.

DISTRICT No. 8.

Miss MARY E. MORRILL taught six weeks in *Summer*. Whole number of scholars, 9; average, 8. The school was visited but once, in consequence of a misunderstanding in regard to the length of the term.

The *Winter Term* was 8 weeks in length. Whole number of scholars, 21; average attendance, 18. The school is backward, though there are some good scholars. Very good improvement was made, considering the disadvantages of a bad house and too much whispering. Mr. MATTHIAS WEEKS, Teacher.

DISTRICT No. 9.

Miss MARY F. NELSON taught both *Summer* and *Winter* Terms. The *Summer* Term was pleasant, orderly, and profitable. Both teacher and scholars were much interested, and harmonious in action. Whole number of scholars, 52; average attendance, 36; length of term, 19 weeks.

In *Winter* the school was much harder; the scholars were not as well disposed, nor was the order maintained or improvement made equal to the *Summer* Term. Yet there was a good degree of improvement made. Whole number, 41; average, 26; length of term, 13½ weeks.

DISTRICT No. 10. (No *Summer School*.)

Miss SARAH B. CROCKETT taught in *Winter*. The school was very orderly from the commencement, and thorough instruction given; consequently fine improvement was made in all the studies pursued; especially in mental arithmetic, reading and spelling. Much praise is due both to the teacher and scholars, some of whom are very smart. Whole number of scholars, 12; average, 11; length of term, 12 weeks.

DISTRICT No. 11.

Miss HARRIET S. GILMAN taught both the *Summer* and *Winter* Terms. The house is miserably poor, and the scholars somewhat irregular in attendance. Yet very good improvement was made, the teacher evidently trying to do the best she could under these circumstances. Was pleased to find one scholar pursuing the too much neglected study—Physiology.

Whole number of scholars in *Summer*, 16; average, 12; length of term, 8 weeks. Whole number of scholars in *Winter*, 20; average, 13; length of term, 8 weeks.

DISTRICT No. 12.

In *Summer* Miss E. J. DURRELL taught ten weeks. Miss Durrell is a competent and energetic teacher, and the scholars under her tuition made fine improvement. As no return has been made, the number of scholars cannot be reported.

In *Winter*, Mr. EBENEZER S. PRICE taught eleven and one half weeks. The school appeared well at the first visit. It was not visited but once, as it closed prematurely in consequence of the illness of the teacher. Whole number of scholars, 22; average, 15.

DISTRICT No. 13.

Summer School.—Taught by Miss JULIETT ROBINSON. Length of school, 10 weeks; whole number of scholars, 27; average attendance, 25. The general appearance of this school is good; particularly, so far as the order, discipline, and duties of the teacher are concerned. We find here some uncommonly good scholars; studious, active, persevering, and of ready comprehension; others more dull and less attentive. The former improved rapidly. It was no fault of the teacher, and perhaps not altogether the fault of the scholar, that the latter did not keep pace with the former. Some scholars learn more readily than others. The teacher's duties were faithfully and successfully discharged.

Winter School.—Taught by Mr. S. LOWELL FRENCH. Length of school, 7 weeks; whole number of scholars, 26; average attendance, 24. The remarks above made in relation to the capacity of scholars may properly be applied here; but the less attentive and more dull found it necessary to bring into active exercise their reserved energies. The improvement of the school was fine, though laboring under some unavoidable disadvantages.

The school-house in this District had been burned, and the school was kept in a private dwelling in a room too small for convenience, but it was the best that could be had. Mr. French is an experienced, thorough and practical teacher, and is undoubtedly among the best in town. His capacity to impart instruction, his method of discipline, and moral influence, combine to make him altogether a desirable teacher.

DISTRICT NO. 14.

Summer School.—Taught by Miss FRANCES E. CHASE. Length of school, 8 weeks; number of scholars, 8; average attendance, 7; amount contributed to prolong the school, and for board and repairs, \$16.00. This School is small but smart, observing excellent order and making rapid improvement. The Teacher, though young and this her first effort, discharged her duty with great credit to herself and profit to the District.—Whispering was dispensed with.

Winter School.—Taught by Miss EDNA J. GALE. Length of School, 12 weeks; number of scholars, 7; average attendance, 7; amount contributed in fuel and board to prolong the School, \$24.50. The improvement during this term of the School was in every respect and in the highest degree satisfactory. The Teacher, who thoroughly understood her business, and felt a deep interest in the same, has left with the scholars of this District a moral and intellectual influence never to be forgotten, and won for herself the esteem of all interested. The order was unexceptionable—each scholar being marked (+plus.) The Teacher remarked in her register that the means by which this order was secured was by being kind, familiar, and speaking pleasantly to the Scholars. No whispering was allowed without permission, and this rule was not once violated. Singing added much to the interest.

If we had more teachers like Miss Gale the general appearance of our Schools would be greatly improved.

DISTRICT NO. 15.

Summer School.—Taught by Miss MARY D. LEIGHTON. Length of School, 4 weeks; number of scholars, 27; average attendance, 25.

The order in this School was commendable, and improvement very good for a short school; but no one can fail to see at a glance that in so large a school, with the two ends so near together, it would be unreasonable to expect great things. It appeared, however, at the closing examination that both Teacher and Scholar had suited their efforts to the occasion, and made the most they could of a short term.

Winter School.—Taught by Mr. JOSEPH PLUMER. Length of School, 6 weeks; number of Scholars, 38; average attendance, 33.

This term of the School was visited but once—the Committee not being notified of its close. When visited the general appearance of the School was fair and the arrangements proper. Your Committee would take the liberty to suggest that one School of good length would be better than two short ones. We would also invite the attention of the citizens of this District to their School-house, and state that in our belief the health and improvement of their children require a better one.

DISTRICT NO. 16.

Miss MARY HILL taught in *Summer*, and Miss MARY J. CLAY in *Winter*. The scholars are young, but unusually well disposed and studious; consequently they learn faster and are more intelligent than usual for children of their age.

Whole number of scholars, 10; average, 10; length of time, 8 weeks.

In winter there were one or two larger scholars and fewer small ones,

yet the same remark will apply in regard to the progress made, as in summer. Miss Clay is an industrious and thorough teacher. There were four scholars who made no communications by whispering during the time.

Whole number, 9; average, 7; length of time, 8 weeks.

DISTRICT NO. 17.

Summer School.—Taught by Miss SARAH B. CROCKETT. Length of school, 10 weeks; number of scholars, 23; average attendance, 20.

This School is composed mostly of young scholars, yet possessing bright and vigorous intellects. Their close application to study and proper observance of good discipline, have won for them high commendation. The Teacher acquitted herself in a most praise-worthy manner; showing evidently the combination of those natural qualities so indispensable to the success of a teacher: The art of governing and imparting instruction—both of which were here called into active exercise, and resulted in great utility to the scholars. Order excellent; whispering not allowed.

Winter School.—Taught by SILAS QUIMBY, Jr. Length of school, 8 weeks; number of Scholars, 24; average attendance, 22; amount contributed to prolong the School, \$20.00.

This School was visited but once. The Committee were not notified of its close, but, when visited, found things in proper order. From the fact that so much was contributed to lengthen it, it is safe to infer that the Teacher gave general satisfaction.

DISTRICT NO. 18.

Summer School.—Taught by Miss SARAH A. HILL. Length of School, 8 weeks; number of Scholars, 15; average attendance, 12.

This is a fine School, and stands high both in deportment and improvement. The Scholars are too good to be put into so bad a house. They deserve a better one. The Teacher stands in the first class, and whatever is said of them may truthfully be said of her. She is worthy of public confidence and patronage.

Winter School.—Taught by the same, and the remarks applied to the Summer School may be substantially applied to this. Length of School, 4 weeks; number of Scholars, 13; average attendance, 12.

DISTRICT NO. 19.

Summer School.—Taught by Miss ANNA L. PRESCOTT. Length of School, 8 weeks; number of Scholars, 26; average attendance, 24.

The citizens of this District have unmistakably demonstrated their interest in the cause of education by constructing a neat and convenient School House, and the scholars seem to appreciate the benefit by preserving the same in a proper manner. The general appearance of the School was good, with a fair improvement. The duties of the Teacher were performed in a prompt and energetic manner—laboring diligently to place the School on that proud eminence which it is capable of occupying; and with the sympathy and undivided coöperation of the citizens, this desirable object may soon be accomplished.

Winter School.—Taught by the same, with nearly the same results, only a marked improvement in some particulars. Length of School, 8½ weeks; number of Scholars, 26; average attendance, 24.

DISTRICT NO. 20.

Miss ELISABETH H. AYER, Teacher. Term, 6 weeks. Visited the School at the commencement. Found 15 scholars present, in a new and convenient house. Both Teachers and Scholars looked happy and interested. Every appearance indicated a profitable term. In consequence of a

severe snow storm, which rendered the roads impassable, the term was shortened, so that the School was not visited at the close. Whole number of scholars, 16; average, 12; time, 6.

DISTRICT NO. 21.

Summer School.—Taught by Miss MARY J. CLAY. Length of School, 16 weeks; number of Scholars, 14; average attendance, 10. In this School we see the result which uniformly marks the combination of effort: The teacher and pupil working together. The Scholars were interested and attentive. The Teacher was suited to her business; and although the term was long, she faltered not to perform her every duty to the last.

No Winter School.

DISTRICT NO. 22.

No Summer School.—*Winter School* taught by Mr. HARLAN JEWETT.—Length of school, 9 weeks; number of scholars, 24; average attendance, 23. This School was visited but once; Committee not notified of its close. When visited, near the commencement of the School, every thing bore the appearance of propriety. The Teacher and Scholars appeared pleased with each other; and, judging from the report of the Teacher, this happy state of things must have continued through the School, and resulted in very great improvement. The order, (as appears from the Register,) must have been excellent. Whispering was dispensed with, by throwing the Scholars upon their individual responsibility and personal respect.

DISTRICT NO. 23.

No Summer School.—Mr. ISAAC S. SANBORN, teacher in *Winter*. The scholars, with one exception, belonged to one family, which has enjoyed few school advantages. Scholars very quiet. Improvement good. Term, 6 weeks; whole number of scholars, 10; average, 9.

DISTRICT NO. 24.

Mr. JAMES B. BROWN taught four weeks in *Winter*. When visited the School appeared well, though backward. This is evidently no want of capacity on the part of the scholars, but the terms are very short, and of the house the teacher says: "It is a poor, dilapidated wreck of antiquity, and a disgrace to the district;" with which opinion your committee fully coincide. Whole number of scholars, 21; average, 20.

There is no number 25 in town.

DISTRICT NO. 26.

Term, 7 weeks; number of scholars, 28; average, 21. Miss ELIZABETH H. AYER taught the *Summer Term*. The discipline was very good, but there was a want of life and interest; yet very fair improvement was made.

In *Winter*, Miss DORA A. SHEPHERD taught 7 weeks. There was evidently more interest than in summer. The movements of the Scholars were very methodical, and they coöperated with the teacher in her efforts to maintain order. The citizens also contribute much to the interest by frequent visits. Whole number of scholars, 29; average, 24.

DISTRICT No. 27.

Summer School.—Miss BETSEY F. HOITT, Teacher. This is rather a backward School. Reading, the most important branch, seems to have been much neglected. The Teacher labored to improve its condition with a good degree of success. Singing was practiced with good effect. Miss Hoitt bids fair for a good teacher. Whole number, 15; average, 12; length, 8 weeks.

Winter School.—Miss MARY H. JENKINS, Teacher. Miss Jenkins is an experienced teacher, and tried to interest her pupils. The progress in some branches was very good, yet the order was not so good as is essential to success. We think parents should feel interested in the success of the school, for it is emphatically the District's School. Whole number, 15; average, 11; length, 8 weeks.

DISTRICT No. 28.

Summer School.—Miss ELIZABETH SHANNON, Teacher. Miss Shannon is an experienced and competent teacher. The pupils were disciplined to attention in their studies, and to all those habits which indicate a well regulated School. Order good. Improvement highly satisfactory. Whole number, 50; average, 42; length, 12½ weeks.

Winter School.—Mr. JOHN H. CAVERLY, Teacher. At the first visit of your Committee this School appeared well, though quite too large. Mr. Caverly entertained sanguine hope of success, and for a time prospered; but, from some cause, some of the scholars left, which in a measure detracted from the prosperity of the School, yet respectable improvement was made by those attending through the term. This District would do well to build a large house, with two rooms, for graded Schools. Whole number, 70; average, 49; length, 10 weeks.

DISTRICT No. 29.

Summer School.—Taught by Miss MARY F. FRENCH. Length of School, 9 weeks; whole number of scholars, 23; average attendance, 18.

Winter School.—Taught by the same Teacher. Length of School, 9½ weeks; Whole number of scholars, 27; average attendance, 20: showing a decided increase of interest, as compared with former Reports, which is very desirable and even necessary. The improvement is highly satisfactory. The Teacher labored hard, performed her part nobly, and is well worthy the respect and confidence of the District. Parents should encourage their children and coöperate with the Teacher in the great work of moral and intellectual culture.

DISTRICT No. 30.

Summer School.—Taught by Miss OLIVE A. LEIGHTON. Length of School, 10 weeks; whole number of scholars, 56; average attendance, 53.

Perhaps in many respects this may be considered a model School. We find here a circumstance that does not often occur: Out of all this number of scholars, as above stated, we do not find one that may properly be considered dull. This idea is corroborated from the fact that all these scholars pursuing their various studies were properly and conveniently arranged in thirteen classes, which is a much less number than we usually find in a School of twenty scholars. The Teacher governed and taught by system; and with this expression, and the above description of the scholars, it seems hardly necessary to say the improvement was all that could be reasonably desired.

Winter School.—Taught by Mr. JOHN W. WELLS. Length of School, 6½ weeks; whole number of scholars, 47; average attendance, 45. The remarks respecting the Summer School, both in regard to Teacher and scholars, and the advancement, are applicable also here, except more advanced scholars coming in this term rendered more classes indispensable. Whispering is not tolerated here, and other matters of order and discipline are such as such teachers would be likely to have. This School has been favored for some time past with the first class of teachers.

DISTRICT No. 31.

Summer School.—Taught by Miss ANNA E. LEIGHTON. Length of School, 6 weeks; whole number of scholars, 12; average attendance, 11.

Winter School.—Taught by the same Teacher. Length of School, 11 weeks; whole number of scholars, 13; average attendance, 12. This School ranks high among the good schools of the town. The deportment and advancement of the scholars is of a highly commendable character. The Teacher also ranks in the first class. Her extensive experience and natural ability to teach, combined with a correct system of discipline, render her unusually successful.

DISTRICT No. 32. (No Summer School.)

Winter School.—Taught by Miss DOROTHY E. HILL. Length of School, 11 weeks; whole number of scholars, 24; average attendance, 20. Some fine scholars here, willing to do their part, and make improvement accordingly. Others need the encouragement of parents in concert with the Teacher, to establish in the mind the indispensable necessity of close application. The Teacher performed her part in a manner that gave unexceptionable satisfaction.

In closing our Report, we would congratulate the citizens of Gilmanton upon the general good success which has attended your Schools the past year. Not a single instance of insubordination, which has called for the intervention of the Committee, has occurred; and, in almost every instance, the Teachers have been well adapted to the situations they have occupied. Yet there have been instances where proper discipline has not been maintained, and where Teachers have not possessed a talent for imparting instruction in an attractive and lucid manner.

We have endeavored to present to you an impartial report of the condition of your schools; yet we may sometimes have erred in our estimate of the merits of individual teachers, because we could not be fully acquainted with all the circumstances surrounding them. We have not always known how far some have been indebted for the signal success which has attended their efforts, to the sympathy, confidence, and coöperation of parents, or how far the partial failure of others was to be attributed to the want of these.

In some Districts we find no visits reported, either from the Prudential Committee or parents. In others, both the Prudential Committee and parents have manifested their interest by frequent visits; and we have invariably found that schools thus visited, (other things being equal,) have made the best improvement.

We earnestly urge upon the consideration of parents the importance of more attention in this respect. That man would be deemed very negligent of his business who should employ a stranger to labor in his fields, his shop, or store—or even to feed his pigs for months in succession—without once looking after him. What, then, can be thought of those parents who entrust the education of their children to the care of strangers year after year, without any personal oversight in the matter?

We find many of the scholars are habitually tardy; interrupting the good order of the school, and annoying the teacher, by coming in at an unseasonable hour, beside losing much valuable time themselves. A little effort on the part of parents would remove this evil, and do much toward forming habits of regularity, promptness and punctuality in after life.

We are happy in being able to say that, in some schools, whispering has been entirely banished—many scholars not having whispered during the term. This has contributed in a high degree to the good order of the

school, and the advancement of the scholars, as the time often spent in useless and mischievous communications has been given to study.

The teacher, not being obliged to spend his time and waste his energies in almost fruitless efforts to maintain order, has been able to devote himself wholly to the work of instruction: a labor much more pleasing to him and profitable to scholars.

Such scholars have exhibited an appearance of good order and quiet industry highly pleasing to the committee, and which is never witnessed, and can never exist where whispering is allowed. We earnestly commend this subject both to teacher and scholar.

Prudential committees can not be too cautious in regard to the habits and morals of the teachers they employ. Literary qualifications should not be the only consideration.

The silent teaching of example has ever been held to be more potent than precept; and as the teacher's influence is exerted during the most susceptible period of existence, and is not limited to the term of his engagement, but does much to form the character of the future man or woman, the importance of this subject can hardly be over estimated.

In some districts a very praiseworthy liberality has been manifested, in contributing to prolong their schools. In others, nothing has been contributed for this purpose, either in wood, board, or money.

Your committee earnestly ask your attention to the subject of School Houses. In many districts the houses are entirely unfit to be occupied; being inconvenient, out of repair, and wholly unsupplied with apparatus of any kind, except, perhaps, a few feet of black-board, often placed so high as to be inaccessible to most of the scholars.

But there is a manifest tendency to improvement in this respect. One new and convenient house has been built, and another thoroughly repaired, during the past year, and others are in contemplation. The importance of this subject will be more apparent when we take into consideration the fact that the school-house, whatever its kind, is itself an education, and exerts a strong influence on the minds of the scholars; and, so far as these affect the morals, on the morals also. If this be doubted, let it be tested by experiment. Replace these time-worn, dilapidated structures by new, well finished, and well furnished houses. It immediately begins to exert a silent but perceptible influence. The scholars no longer come rushing in, regardless of scraper and mat, and relieve their feet of the accumulated snow or mud, by stamping around the stove. This is done at the door, where proper accommodations have been provided. The nicely painted and varnished desks are not disfigured by the pocket-knife, with which unseemly notches are so often cut by Yankee boys. Each scholar feels a personal pride in the good appearance and preservation of the desk he occupies.

The walls, which formerly were covered over with charcoal sketches, some ludicrous and some obscene, are now mostly papered, and adorned with outline maps, and the incipient artist would hesitate to exercise his skill. In a word, the scholar has fewer inducements to idleness and vice, and more to propriety, industry and virtue. Let the experiment be universally made.

CHARLES A. HACKETT,	} <i>Superintending</i>
JOHN L. KELLEY,	
JONATHAN W. CLOUGH,	
	<i>Schoo..</i>
	<i>Committee.</i>

